

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1-23 have been amended herein. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims.

All of the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,159,826 by Kim, *et al.*, or under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim, *et al.*, in view of one or more of U.S. Patent No. 5,357,136 by Yoshioka, U.S. Patent No. 5,785,236 by Cheung, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,877,557 by Zavaideh, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,656,945 by Cain, and U.S. Patent No. 6,107,122 by Wood, *et al.*

In the Office Action, the Examiner takes the position that Kim, *et al.* discloses an "intermediate" product with all of the claimed features. However, all of the independent claims have now been amended so that both the bond area portion and the probe area portion of the bond pad are required to be on the semiconductor chip itself and not on the wafer scribe lanes between chips. Therefore, the intermediate product or wafer with several chips and the probe area between chips, as disclosed by Kim, *et al.* (see FIGs. 4, 5, 7, and 8 and column 3, lines 9-10, column 5, lines 15-18, and column 4, lines 22-31), does not anticipate the claims since according to Kim, *et al.*, the "probe" area is removed by the singulation process, and is not on the semiconductor chip.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that none of the claims are anticipated by Kim, *et al.* under 35 U.S.C. 102. Further, none of the other references of record overcome the shortcomings of Kim, *et al.* and therefore none of the claims are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issuance. If the Examiner should have any questions, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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